SN. 10/092,006   ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. CANO:044

<u>IN THE CLAIMS</u>

The status of the claims as presently amended is as follows:

1. *(Currently Amended)* A program operating apparatus comprising:

 a first CPU that has operation thereof controlled by a first control program;

 a second CPU that has operation thereof controlled by a second control program;

 first storage means <u>that is rewritable, is removable from the program operating</u> apparatus, and stor~~inges~~ the first control program, the second control program, and a write control program<u>, the first control program stored in said first storage means controlling operation of said first CPU in a normal mode</u>;

 second storage means for storing the second control program; and

 write control means operable when a mode of the apparatus is switched to a write control mode in which the second control program <u>stored in said first storage means</u> is written to said second storage means, for executing write control comprising transferring the write control program <u>stored in said first storage means from said first storage means</u> to said second CPU, and causing said second CPU to write the second control program stored in said first storage means to said second storage means.

2. *(Original)* A program operating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said write control means is operable when the mode of the apparatus is switched to the write control mode, for transferring the write control program for executing a process of writing the second control program to said second storage means to a storage area accessible by said second CPU, and causing said second CPU to execute the write control program to thereby write the second control program stored in said first storage means to said second storage means.

3. *(Canceled)*

4. *(Original)* A program operating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said second storage means comprises a rewritable non-volatile storage medium.

5. *(Original)* A program operating apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said second storage means comprises a rewritable non-volatile storage medium provided in said second CPU.

2

6. (*Original*) A program operating apparatus according to claim 1, comprising switching means for switching between a normal control mode in which normal control of the apparatus is carried out and the write control mode.

7. (*Original*) A program operating apparatus according to claim 1, which is applicable to an image forming apparatus for forming images on sheets.

8. (*Original*) A program operating apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said image forming apparatus comprises a main body, and at least one functional unit, and wherein said first CPU controls basic operation of said main body of said image forming apparatus, and said second CPU controls operations of said at least one functional unit.

9. (*Original*) A program operating apparatus according to claim 1, which is applicable to a finisher for executing post-processing on sheets having images formed thereon.

10. (*Original*) A program operating apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said finisher comprises a main body, and at least one functional unit, and wherein said first CPU controls basic operation of said main body of said finisher, and said second CPU controls operations of said at least one functional unit.

11. (*Currently Amended*) A program write control apparatus installed on a program operating apparatus comprising a first CPU that has operation thereof controlled by a first control program, a second CPU that has operation thereof controlled by a second control program, first storage means that is rewritable, is removable from the program operating apparatus, and storinges the first control program, the second control program, and a write control program, and second storage means for storing the second control program, wherein the first control program stored in said first storage means controls operation of said first CPU in a normal mode, the program write control apparatus comprising:

write control means operable when a mode of the apparatus is switched to a write control mode in which the second control program stored in said first storage means is written to said second storage means, for executing write control comprising transferring the write control program stored in said first storage means from said first storage means to said second CPU, and causing said second CPU to write the second control program stored in said first storage means to said second storage means.

3

12. (*Original*) A program write control apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said write control means is operable when the mode of the apparatus is switched to the write control mode, for transferring the write control program for executing a process of writing the second control program to said second storage means to a storage area accessible by said second CPU, and causing said second CPU to execute the write control program to thereby write the second control program stored in said first storage means to said second storage means.

13. (*Canceled*)

14. (*Original*) A program write control apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said second storage means comprises a rewritable non-volatile storage medium.

15. (*Original*) A program write control apparatus according to claim 14, wherein said second storage means comprises a rewritable non-volatile storage medium provided in said second CPU.

16. (*Original*) A program write control apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said write control means is operable when power is applied to said program operating apparatus to actuate same, for executing the write control if the mode of the apparatus has been switched to the write control mode by switching means for switching between a normal control mode in which normal control of the apparatus is carried out and the write control mode.

17. (*Original*) A program write control apparatus according to claim 1, which is mounted in an image forming apparatus for forming images on sheets.

18. (*Original*) A program write control apparatus according to claim 17, wherein said image forming apparatus comprises a main body, and at least one functional unit, and wherein said first CPU controls basic operation of said main body of said image forming apparatus, and said second CPU controls operations of said at least one functional unit.

19. (*Original*) A program write control apparatus according to claim 1, which is mounted in a finisher for executing post-processing on sheets having images formed thereon.

4

SN. 10/092,006 ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. CANO:044

20. (*Original*) A program write control apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said finisher comprises a main body, and at least one functional unit, and wherein said first CPU controls basic operation of said main body of said finisher, and said second CPU controls operations of said at least one functional unit.

21. (*Currently Amended*) A program write control method executed by a program operating apparatus comprising a first CPU that has operation thereof controlled by a first control program, a second CPU that has operation thereof controlled by a second control program, first storage means that is rewritable, is removable from the program operating apparatus, and stor̶i̶n̶ges the first control program, the second control program, and a write control program, and second storage means for storing the second control program, wherein the first control program stored in said first storage means controls operation of said first CPU in a normal mode, the method comprising the step of:

executing write control comprising transferring the write control program stored in said first storage means from said first storage means to said second CPU, and causing said second CPU to write the second control program stored in said first storage means to said second storage means when a mode of the apparatus is switched to a write control mode in which the second control program stored in said first storage means is written to said second storage means.

22. (*Original*) A program write control method according to claim 22, wherein said step of executing the write control comprises transferring the write control program for executing a process of writing the second control program to said second storage means to a storage area accessible by said second CPU, and causing said second CPU to execute the write control program to thereby write the second control program stored in said first storage means to said second storage means, when the mode of the apparatus is switched to the write control mode.

23. (*Original*) A program write control method according to claim 21, which is executed by an image forming apparatus for forming images on sheets.

24. (*Original*) A program write control method according to claim 21, which is executed by a finisher for executing post-processing on sheets having images formed thereon.

5

SN. 10/092,006   ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. CANO:044

25. (*Original*) A program write control method according to claim 23, wherein said image forming apparatus comprises a main body, and at least one functional unit, and wherein said first CPU controls basic operation of said main body of said image forming apparatus, and said second CPU controls operations of said at least one functional unit.

26. (*Original*) A program write control method according to claim 24, wherein said finisher comprises a main body, and at least one functional unit, and wherein said first CPU controls basic operation of said main body of said finisher, and said second CPU controls operations of said at least one functional unit.

27. (*Currently Amended*) A program operating apparatus comprising:

at least one functional unit;

a first CPU that controls basic operation of the apparatus according to a first control program;

a second CPU that controls operation of said functional unit according to a second control program;

first storage means that is rewritable, is removable from the program operating apparatus, and storinges the first control program and the second control program, the first control program stored in said first storage means controlling operation of said first CPU in a normal mode;

second storage means for storing the second control program; and

write control means operable when a mode of the apparatus is switched to a write control mode in which the second control program stored in said first storage means is written to said second storage means, for controlling writing the second control program stored in said first storage means to said second storage means.

28. (*Original*) A program operating apparatus according to claim 27, which is applicable to an image forming apparatus for forming images on sheets.

29. (*Original*) A program operating apparatus according to claim 27, which is applicable to a finisher for executing post-processing on sheets having images formed thereon.

30. (*Currently Amended*) An image forming apparatus comprising:

at least one functional unit;

6

SN. 10/092,006 ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. CANO:044

a first CPU that controls basic operation of the apparatus according to a first control program;

a second CPU that controls operation of said functional unit according to a second control program;

first storage means <u>that is rewritable, is removable from the image forming apparatus, and</u> stori~~nges~~ the first control program, the second control program, and a write control program<u>, the first control program stored in said first storage means controlling operation of said first CPU in a normal mode</u>;

second storage means for storing the second control program; and

write control means operable when a mode of the apparatus is switched to a write control mode in which the second control program <u>stored in said first storage means </u>is written to said second storage means, for executing write control comprising transferring the write control program <u>stored in said first storage means from said first storage means </u>to said second CPU, and causing said second CPU to write the second control program stored in said first storage means to said second storage means.

31. (*Currently Amended*) A finisher comprising:

at least one functional unit;

a first CPU that controls basic operation of the finisher according to a first control program;

a second CPU that controls operation of said functional unit according to a second control program;

first storage means <u>that is rewritable, is removable from the finisher, and</u> stori~~nges~~ the first control program, the second control program, and a write control program<u>, the first control program stored in said first storage means controlling operation of said first CPU in a normal mode</u>;

second storage means for storing the second control program; and

write control means operable when a mode of the finisher is switched to a write control mode in which the second control program <u>stored in said first storage means </u>is written to said second storage means, for executing write control comprising transferring the write control program <u>stored in said first storage means from said first storage means </u>to said second CPU, and causing said second CPU to write the second control program stored in said first storage means to said second storage means.

7